

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 PA-04 EB-11 SCI-06 COME-00 USIA-15

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8463

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BERN

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SENV, SCUL, BIE, GW

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION IN SPOKANE 1974 INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION

REF: BONN 15157

1. ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL MINISTER AGAIN RAISED THE QUESTION OF FRG PARTICIPATION IN SPOKANE EXHIBITION IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARIES HERMES OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND STEEG OF THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY.

IN URGING GERMAN PARTICIPATION WE EMPHASIZED THAT FRENCH DECISION TO PARTICIPATE HAD BEEN MADE BY PRIME MINISTER

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MESSMER, AND WE STRONGLY URGED THAT FRG MAKE A SIMILAR

DECISION AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL. WE ALSO STRESSED CABINET-LEVEL INTEREST IN THIS ISSUE WITHIN THE USG.

2. IN RESPONDING HERMES SAID THAT GERMAN BUSINESS FIRMS HAD TOLD HIM THAT THE FEES INVOLVED IN PARTICIPATING IN SPOKANE WERE JUST TOO HIGH TO JUSTIFY THEIR PARTICIPATION. HERMES SUGGESTED THAT IF THE FEES COULD BE WAIVED THEN PERHAPS SOME GERMAN FIRMS WOULD BE WILLING TO MEET THE EXPENSES OF TRANSPORTATION OF EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL COSTS. WE SAID THAT WE THOUGHT THAT IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT BE REPRESENTED AT THE EXPOSITION. HERMES SAID THAT HE WOULD SEE THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY GAVE HIGH-LEVEL CONSIDERATION TO THIS QUESTION.

3. IN HER RESPONSE FRAU STEEG REPORTED THAT UNDER SECRETARY ROHWEDDER HAD RECENTLY REMARKED THAT THE FRG SHOULD NOT PROLIFERATE ITS PARTICIPATION IN FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS AND SHOULD INSTEAD CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORTS ON THOSE FAIRS WHERE GERMAN FIRMS HAVE A SPECIAL INTEREST. NONETHELESS SHE PROMISED SHE WOULD BRING THIS MATTER TO SECRETARY FRIDERICH'S ATTENTION FOR A DECISION.

HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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